## THE ARCTIC SEASON

Alarming Condition of the Street Hydrants.

OVER THREE THOUSAND FROZEN.

Slight Improvement in River Navigation.

THE SOUND STILL FROZEN FAST.

The Hudson Bridged Opposite Fort Washington.

According to the written word and tradition the Severity of the present winter has been unequalled for at least the past forty years. In 1835 it was thought that the very acme of misery, resulting from an extreme season in every way, had been reached, and that, whatever the trouble and sufering unfortunate humanity might be called upon to endure in the luture, an atmosphere registering from 4 to 5 degrees above or below zero would not be experienced for any lengthened period. In fact, the winter of that year was looked apon as an exceedingly exceptional one, in so far as its rigors were concerned. The inferences were that the difficulties then encountered, in regard to the arrangements of domestic and public water works, would act as a precedent and years would draw beneficial deductions and conduring the ever memorable fire, the greatest dif-ficulty was experienced in obtaining a sufficient upply of water from the hydrants by which the fire engines of that day could be operated. The consequence was that hundreds of houses were destroyed by the devouring element and millions ward there was found no representation or equivrnins. The lesson then learned was one which should never have been forgotten, and that should have been appreclated and profited by for all time to come. The lapse of years and immunity from similar disastrous visitations during the icy period of each speceeding year appear to have begot indifference and carelessness. A fire at that time was considered to be a serious matter. Now. however-whether it be from familiarity with the sanger, or that this very familiarity breeds contempt-no particular attention appears to be paid by the authorities to the possibility of danger that has been lately so torcibly pointed out and effectually demonstrated.

THE HYDRANTS.

With a view of ascertaining by actual observation how many of the street hydrants were in a condition for immediate use, in case of sudden emergency, such as a fire, several of the Herald reporters were directed to make a thorough and complete inspection of the city. Beginning early yesterday moraing these gentlemen passed through street after street, inquiring at fire engine houses and at the police stations, and visitg every hydrant in the city from Thirty-fourth street to the Battery. The result was that the frozen hydrant was the rule, the open one an exception. To say that the city is almost defence-less in the event of a large fire is only stating the bare truth, for with hydrants sealed by frost the firemen cannot get their apparatus in operation as rapidly as they ought, in order to check the progress of the fames. The reports herewith with meaning. Without seeking to alarm our readers it is only right that they should know exactly the condition of these hydrants. ABOVE FOURTRENTS STREET.

Between Fourteenth and Thirty-fourth streets, from river to river, there are 981 hydrauts, Of these there were only twenty-two known to be fit for immediate use. The firemen had on the previous day examined several hydrants and thawed them out. All of these hydrants were frozen last yesterday, showing how easily they the water fronts between Thirty-fourth and Fourteenth streets. on either side, all the hydrants were found to be sealed by frost. The west side of this district seems to have suffered less than the so many of the large lactories on the west side have their large boilers under the street, and the heat thereby engendered keeps through this district found firemen at selecting positions for new fire hydrants, and there were several steamers employed in thawing out those found frozen. It was also ascertained that though the men stated that it will be impossible to test all the hydrants, so they are devoting their

peed as a laser teer askoon by Bernan kinanous. The building was valued as \$5.00 and lissured for \$5,000 in the Manhattan and other companies.

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previously reported. Besides the city of Hartford and the Bridgeport, which remained ice bound here since yesterday, the Francoma, from Portland; the city of Fitchburg, from New Bedford, and the City of New Bedford, from New Bedford, and the City of New Bedford, from New Serk, got fast opposite here this A. M. The steaming Day Spring, with the acaooner George F. Trigg, is also here. The steamers Franconia and Fitchburg were in consort from New Bedford, and assisted each other materially in getting through this ar. They report being two days making the distance from Execution Lighthouse to Throggs' Neck. The City of Fitchburg kept on a full head of steam throughout the day, and by this means sawed a channel from Throggs' Neck to Whitestone Point, the others following in her wake. They are progressing cityward at the rate of about three yards an hour, and the probability is they will arrive some time to-merrow.

and intonal steamers will be set at work to-day, though them stated that it will be impossible to test all the hydrants, so they are devoting their attention to the principal oses in each fire of the consort from New Bedford, and sasisted each state in order thus the supply of water attention to the principal oses in each fire of the consort from New Bedford, and sasisted each state in order thus the supply of water attention to the principal oses in each fire of the consort from New Bedford, and sasisted each state in order thus the supply of water and the property set of the consort from New Bedford, and sasisted each state in a hydrant was found to be forced to have been been sent as the control of the property set of the control of the property set of the control of the property set of the control of

Rocky Point, Bristol and Fall River. The track made by the Providence steamers is firmly frozen ever every morning. A passage way has been cut across the ferry at Fall River for the steamer, which forms the connection with the Providence. Warren and Bristol Railroad, and wash, on account of Providence River being frozen over, forms the only direct communication with the north part of this State.

A TORFEDO EXPERIMENT.

Omcers and employes of the torpedo station here to day turned their experience in the manufacture of forpedoes to practical use. Several can torpedoes were brought to bear apon the loo in the harbor, and several magnificent explosions were witnessed; the column of water was not thrown very high, owing to the thickness of the ice, but the force of the explosion caused the ice for a distance of thirty feet by five feet to be completely broken up and scattered in every alrection. The novel seectacle was winnessed by a large number of spectators, who were deeply interested in the experiments. The operators had their steam lanneh, in which to cacape after igniting the torpedoes, and thus were in no danger of talling through after the loe had received the shock. Additional and more effective experments are expected to be made to-morrow.

THE ICE IN BOSTON BAY AND HARBOR. SNOW AND ICE AS SEEN FROM EAST BOSTON, LOOK-ING SEAWARD-VIEW FROM THE HIGHLANDS OF CAPE COD-CONDITION OF THE FISHERMEN AND THE ICE-BOUND VESSELS-THE WEATHER AT THE CAPE-CONDITION OF THE FISHERMEN ON THE BANKS.

Beston, Feb. 16, 1875. ice fields in the bay; although at no time has the harbor been closed, navigation has nevertheless been attended with difficulty and peril. The wrole space between East Boston, Winthrop and the while ice can be seen as far as the eye can reach seaward from any place in East Boston. The clear blue weather of the harbor is in markes contrast with the whiteness which surrounds it. Broad Sound and the Nariows were much lumbered with broken ice yesterday, but this morning both were clear. westerly wind, which was quite fresh last night. the flood tide. Along both sides of the bay the ice gale has been remarkably smooth, which lavors freezing. In some sheltered places, between the rocks, the ice has drilted cake upon cake to such an extent that it rests upon the bottom at all times of the tide. The view from the highlands of Cape Cod is bleak and dreary. The whole ocean seems ice-bound. Vineyard Sound, Nantucket Shoals and Nantucket itself are all encased in

Vessels bound along the coast are compelled to give the land a "wide berth," to avoid the ice. Independent of the solid frozen barrier there are vast fleids of detached ice floating in all directions, even to the margin of the Gul! Stream, some of which are large enough to stave a hole in any ordinary vessel which might have the bad luck to THE ICE-BOUND VESSELS.

The perils threatened by the vast ice fields in the neighborhood of Cape Cod are now ha plif re-moved. A day or two ago there were a handred or mere fishing and other vessels irozen in, some of them being twenty and thirty miles distant from communication by either sea or land, and it was leared that either freezing or starvation would be the fate of many. Never belore, probably, has Massachusetts Bay been so thoroughly ice-bound as during the cold term from which we are just now emerging. There are still many fishing vessels imbedded in the see, but the cheering news comes from Provincetown that the crews are provided with a sufficient quantity of fuel and food to bold out until relief reaches them. The stories to the effect that there has been great suffering among them are dealed by the captain of the frevincetown steamer which arrived here this afternoon. On the contrary, the men are perfectly sale if they remain by their vessels, and if short of water and provisions these can now readily be obtained on the shore, which is reached without danger over the lee, and this means of communication with the land is freely used in passing between the vessels and share. A large number of the ishermen came up to the city today in the cars, having left their vessels in darries of a sufficient number of names to took after the property, and in ease the lee brakes up to work them into the Barbor. It was found advisable to take this course, as the stock of lood was short and the men could be fed elsewhere with less trouble and expense, if the present cold weather is to continue for any length of time. Those whe stay on board can get supplies from the short, and the men could be fed elsewhere with less their light deries are well suited for transportation ever the lee. Captain Smith, of the Province-town steamer, states that there has been no case of irost-victien limbs. There are irom fifteen to twenty vessels frozen in. They remain stationary and are not likely to sustain any damage.

PROM WOODEND 70 SADWICH.

The whole bay extending row Woodend to Sandwich, a distance of eighteen miles, is covered with a solid felio of lee, and notaing can be done to extribu or more fishing and other vessels trozen in, some of them being twenty and thirty miles

in the case, which afforded relief to unnecessary apprehension.

The Weather at the Cape has been very much exaggerated in some of the published statements. In its morning the wind at the Cape was light from the northwest, with the thermometer filteen degrees above zero. The weather hashing to became cold enough to make fee quite fast, and under the influence of the low temporature the fee fields are growing in extent and thickness. A despatch received at the merchants' Exchange this morning from Highland Light, Cape Cod, reports that the United States revenue cutter Gallatin, Captain Seiden, and twenty sail of fishermen were at anchor off Long Point early this morning, and all got under weigh and went to sea—the fishermen to fish and the cutter to look after the bark Eliza White, from Cardenas for Hoston, which has been on the coast several days. The cutter had rendered the fishermen all the aid she could until the weather changes.

The brig Carrie Purrington, from Leghorn for Boston, before reported among the ice near Provincetown, remains embargued. Captain Smith thinks she is safe and will be cleared the fishermen the wind that is, she has not any ancrors down. At low water she appears to bouch bottom, but is in a favorable position to get clear when the wind becomes easterly. The brig, as well as the fishermen, are white with ice, outside and inside. Later accounts from Provincetow state that the cutter Gallatin attempted to reach the foozen fishermen, fitteen in number, by an opening at Woodend, but is at hand to send men over the tee tee allord personal relief should it be required.

Apparish at Capta Ann.

Accounts from Goucester this evening state that the intense cold of the last three days has completely placed as ice embarge is the harror, which was inever known before by the oldest inhabitant. It seriously interiers with the fishing interest, and it is impossible for fishermen arriving to get eer any whart to discharge their fish. About 6fty Georges men and Bankers are solld in the lee was those an

farther into the harbor and freezes it more compact than ever.

FISHERMEN SUSTAIN REAVY LOSSES.

It is a heavy damage to Gloucester and also to the vessels zriving. The losses of cables and anchors make it quite discouraging. The schooner George W. Stetson arrived from the Georges this morning, with the loss of 200 fathoms of 84 inch cable and her anchor, which was obliged to be cut to save fier being run down on George's Bank by the schooner Hattie B. Lewis, also of this port, who broke adritt. The schooner T. L. Mayo arrived home this morning. She lost a tring of cable and an anchor and had her windlass smashed. Both report the cold latense, and returned home without fish.

THE SKATING SEASON.

WINTER'S FAVORITE SPORT AT THE PARK-THE ICE IN FINE CONDITION.

Although the "ball" has been hoisted over the Museum at the Park for several weeks the lovers of skating in this city and vicinity do not seem to grow tired of the sport. Day after day the pounds are crowded, and on Suneays and bright nights the signt is really of marvellous interest. Thou-sands seem to take the utmost pleasure in the pastime, and such afternoons as yesterday every available standing place in good sight of the ice is crowded. It has been a very long time since

skating has been so fine.

The crowd on the ice yesterday was composed of all kinds and representatives from all the elements of society. The small boy and his sweet.

brothers, too, "could have been seen," and ever and anon a handsome elder sister, in appropriate and elegant costume, flitted by like a dream. Then there were family parties, and after nightfall the beaux and belles were numerous. Now and then there were noticed suspicious tumbles on the ice among the fair sex, and the mas-curne attendants seemed to have considerable difficulty in lifting the prostrate hades to their seet, a task which required taking them around the waist and holding them until recovered from the shock. This is certainly a special attraction of itself, but then it happens on the ice every day and lacks the charm of novelty. Many pleasant groups of half a dozen or more belief to make up the doings of the atternoon. Such a number of old friends or relatives form a very jolly party. It is of that particular character of a gathering whereof each and every memoer can be free without rudeness, miscnievous without ill-will, affectionate without "serious intentions," intimate without objectionable familiarity, on such weil regulated skaking ponds as those at the Park. covered from the shock. This is certainly a special

on such weil regulated skaking ponds as those at the Park.

At night the young and timid in a measure sought their homes, and not until reneving their feet of the skates did they think of the rather mipping air. For hours they had been exposed to the cold and fluctuating wind, but minded it not. Frosted noses, toes and fingers must sometimes be endured by juveniles, and this was one of the occasions. Once off ier home and supper, however, some of them scampered out of the Park just as fast as they had ouzzed over the surface of the ice. To make oup for the depletion by the retiring single members of the crowd came clerks and apprentices, who must have their enjoyment aiter sunset, if at all. Though a little more conjused, perhaps, the nature of the picture was not less pleasing then that that presented by daylight. There was music in the ringing souns of the steel-ciad feet and in the laughter of women, which grew so contagious that at last the spectators wondered if each one of the grand gathering were not as happy as mortal could well be.

CONNECTICUT DEMOCRATS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE CON-VENTION-GOVERNOR INGERSOLL AND THE ENTIRE STATE TICKET UNANIMOUSLY BE NOMINATED-SPEECH OF MR. D. A. WELLS.

The Democratic State Convention was held in this city to-day. Every town in the State was represented. Mr. Charles Darand, of Deroy, was chosen temporary chairman. After the appointment of the usual committees, Mr. David A. Wells was elected permanent Chairman.

In taking the chair Mr. Wells spoke of a picture in the Capitol at Washington which symbolized the journey of a party from the gates of the East to the El Dorado of the West. It had journeyed for years, but the goal of its destination had not been reached. At last it had reached a point where the goal scemed at hand. For ten long years this party had journeyed over a weary political waste, seeking for peace and harmony in the country, for the abstinence of the government from a further exercise of war power, for relief six years he had passed over dreamy plains of Grantism-(applause)-through Butler's Guichand the Credit Mobiliers-(applause)-until at election, he obtained a bright prospect. was for American democrats to say whether the glorious movement should ceed uninterrupted. The party must plant itself anew upon the same democratic principles waica underlie free government. Those principles are in general so plain that he who rous may read. They were, first, that that government is best which governs least. (Applause.) The government which does not interfere with the rights of the States, renders equal justice to all of whatever falth, hard money and taxation for revenue only.

(Applause.) With these principles the party must go north to victory. The speaker concinded by relating the story of a New England deacon who tried to sing the hymn beginning—

Thy servant, Lord, with hyssop purge,

but who failed to get beyond the first line because interrupted by the entrance of a straggling sailor, who surgested that if hyssop failed to purge some other herb should be tried. (Apphags.) So to purge the country of these Louisiana difficulties democratic hyssop must be used. (Great apparate)

democratic hyssop must be used. (Great appiause.)

RENOMINATION OF THE TICKET.

In answer to a motion that as informal ballot be taken for Governor, Mr. A. E. Burr rose and said that although Mr. Inkersoll desired to retire, the party at turns time would not permit him, and that the success of the ticket next spring depended on united action in this Convention. He moved that the old ticket be renominated by acclaura-

Mr. Thomas M. Walier, of New London, in Mr. Thomas M. Waller, of New London, in seconding the motion, gracefully withdrew the name of the candidate from his county, Mr. Francis B. Loomis. The entire ticket was then renominated, the Convention rising to make the nomination. This was followed by tremendous outbursts of appliance.

THE RESOLUTIONS.

The democratic and liberal republican electors of Connecticut, in delegated convention assembled, do de-

necticut, in delegated convention because true powers clare:—
First—That free government derives its true powers from the consent of the government; that the federal government is vested with those powers only which are granted to it by the people and enumerated in the constitution of the United states.

Second—That the public welfare requires the supremacy of the civil over the military authority and freedom and a the protection of habeas corpus; and

Second—That the public welfare requires the supremacy of the civil over the military authority and freedom of person under the protection of babeas corpus; and we demand for the individual the largest liberty consistent with the public order—for the state, sell-government; for the nation a return to the methods of peace and to the constitutional limitations of power.

Third—hat we view with appreheusion and alarm, and solemnly concern as surversive of free government, the recent nection of the federal Executive in reference to the State of Louisian and Arkanasa, and the avowed determination of the administration to disregard the will of the people of those States in reference to the organization of their local afairs.

Fourth—That the use of bad mone imposes an inequal and dishenest tax, which bears most heavily on those who work for wages; that irredeemable paper currency, by whatever means known, is bad money, and that it is a trad in time of peace for the government to make anything a legal lender except gold and silver of a fixed standard.

Fith—That the republican party has proved itself until the circumber of the contract of the survey of a fixed standard. make anything a legal lender except gold and silver of a fixed standard.

Fith—link the republican party has proved itself united to rule, because, with united opportunity, it has failed to make the had mokey which it has forced upon the people equal to the good money with which it pays its bondholders.

Sight—link it is no time, when industry is depressed and hones; labor everywhere deprived of the opportunity for regular and remunerative employment, to increase the burdens of federal taxtion; and that the oreent acknowledged hankruptcy of the National Treasury is conclusive proof of the incompetency of the republican party to properly administer the fiscal affairs of the country.

country.—That the manner in which the affairs of the State active the manner in which the affairs of the State acts are been administered during the mist two years; that the manner in which the past two years; the State government, have been conducted and impartiality with which the Executive duties have been performed are worthy of approval by the electors.

have been performed are worthy of approval by the electors.

Eighth—That we cordially approve of the removal by the Lexislature of 15% of embarasements which the radical party had placed in the way of free suffrage; and we also approve of the repeal of the unjust alleliaw, which that party had adopted for the purpose of restricting an expression of the popular voice of the ballot boxes.

Resolved, That we present to the consideration of the electors of Connectical the names of Charles R. Ingermination of the consideration of the electors of Connectical the names of Charles R. Ingermond and Alfred R. Gooffich for re-election to the offices they have so ably and faltifully filled during the past two years; and we invite all the conservative voters who prefer principle to party and a government of freedom to military rule to sac with us in securing their olection on the liftst Monday of April next.

EKLIGIOUS LIERTY.

ERLIGIOUS LIBERTY.

The following additional resolution, introduced by Mr. McCarthy, of New Haven, was, after discus-

by Mr. McCarthy, of New Haven, was, after discussion, adopted:—
Resolved, That the democratic party, in State Convention assembled, demand, in the future as in the past, for each and every citizen of the State the right of "the exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and wership without discrimination," and that it condemns all opposition to and reiusal, to vote or a candidate for office that originates and has its source solely from the religious convictions held by such candidate, and that we regard such opposition as an insult to his faith an intringuent of his right as an American citizen, as contrary to the Jefferson and determine of democracy and a violation of the letter and apprit of the constitution of the State.

After the adoption of the rules providing for the

After the adoption of the rules providing for the election of delegates to future conventions four days before the assembling thereof and the appointment of a State Central Committee, the Convention, with three hearty cheers for the ticket, adjourned.

ILL NEWS FOR THE POOR. Unless prompt and generous aid is extended to

St. John's Guid to day its doors will be closed to-night, for the first time in eight years. There is parely enough food in the stereroom to last dur-ing the day. Over 4,000 different families (more ing the day. Over 4,000 different families (more than 20,000 persons) have been supplied with food by the Guild during the past bitter season. A thousand addresses are now on its books of parties who cannot be visited because there is nothing to offer them. So und the day 20 by without bringing them relief it would be a terrible blow to the poor, and muce suffering must ensue in all the poorer quarters of the city.

THE DESTITUTE BLIND MAN

Mr. Henry Bergh acknowledges the receipt of the following additional sums of money sent him for tke blind man's family, No. 18 Clinton street :--

## LOUISIANA.

A Letter from the Chairman of the Conservative Committee.

The Testimony Adduced Before the Foster and Hoar Committees.

The Same Facts by Different Witnesses.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 14, 1875.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-Having served as chairman of the Conserva tive Committee before the Returning Board and the two Congressional sub-committees lately at before those bodies and a statement of the present condition of affairs in Louisiana from me may not be uninteresting to your readers, and may serve to throw some light upon those points of the controversy which are as yet imperfectly understood. Thanks to the energy and enterprise of such independent journals as the Herald, the main features of the case are plainly before the general public, although the details necessary to the proper understanding of the attitude of the people in that oppressed State are not as thoroughly comprehended as mittee came among us as thoroughly encrusted with partisan prejudice as could well be imagined, and returned from its labors so disarmed and divested of its preconceived ideas of our people as to present in its report a truthful picture of the troubles of our oppressed State. Following almost upon its heels came the subcommittee, of which the Hon. George F. Hoar was chairman, and having just completed its labors, has now returned and is about to report the re-suits of its investigation. What conclusions it may have reached or to what opinions it may ing by the fairness of its rulings and method of investigation, I cannot well doubt from the evidence educed that it must in the main confirm the report of Mr. Foster and his colleagues.

The latter examination was not quite so ther ough as the former, the number of witnesses havtimidation, while the former reached the neigheither office-holders under the Kellogg or the federal government, and these three were so evidently biased by personal grievances or tainted

them was anie to make out a single case of infimidation in the election of 1574, such as would stand for a moment in a court of justice or before any intelligent deliberative assembly in the country, then say evidence, rumors, impressions and opinions formed the staple of the Kellogg testimory, which, on analysis, resolved itself into nothing as its base. So plain and this appear that the Kellogg counsel found themselves forced to fall back upon the fiot of 1866, the Cohax affair of 1873 and the Cousalta murders of August, 1874, in order to create an impression of undefined and general intimidation, to be drawn by interence from those occurrences, because they had no positive facts or indications, and could have none, because none existed, by which to establish their case.

Fortunately for the conservatives, the registration and election figures of 1874 amply refuted this theory without the necessity of arguments. In the two parishes in which these places are situated it was shown that the republicans elected their whole tickets by a majority proportionate to the ratio of population, black and white, while in Grant, one of them, and the scene of the Coliax riot, the figures show that eighty-four per cent of the colored registered voted, while only seventy-three per cent of the whites registered voted, and were so returned by the Commissioners of Election, with the exception of a Representative in Grant, where the republican vote being somewhat divided between two candidates of their own party, the conservative was elected by a small plurality. This last parish the Returning Board arolitarily refused to return. In regard to this and similar action of that Board, the Hoar sub-committee have not refrained from openily proclaiming, as individuals, their opinion of us utter illegality.

Nor can it well refuse to confirm the report of the feature of the confirmation of the process of the confirmation of the confirmation of the confirmation of the confirmation of the feature of the confirmation of the confirmation of

claiming, as individuals, their opinion of its utter illegality.

Nor can it well refuse to confirm the report of the Foster sub-committee as to the transparent fraud of its action, for in addition to the evidence produced before the former sub-committee in regard to its runings, and the President of the Board packing the record with his own addavit after the case was closed and submitted for judgment, the President of the Board confessed in his evidence before the last sub-committee his own guilt and the participation therein of the other members by their sanction. Cumulative of this proof of fraud, it transpired before the Hoar body and was exhibited by the record final, although all festimons was closed before the Board and the briefs submitted on the 7th of December, two days later, on the 9th, the Kellogg counsel were allowed to put in the record, unknown to their opponents, an unsworn abstract of ten or tweive adidavits, which they claimed to have lost, and that on the 21st of December they were again and that on the list of December they were again all of word in the same way to interpolate several documents in proof, and all of these expared words of the wor

npon the aggressive absorption of each other. There is now in Louisiana, in the American sense, no republican government, either in form or substance. To guarantee one is the duty of congress, and the responsibility for the continued absence of this prerequisite to a State in the American Union cannot be longer avoided without the most learned danger to the whole system of our autonomy. The President has asked action in the premises and the country alke demants it. The admission of Pinchback on a prima facicas—without the settlement of the status of the present government, will not advance matters, but will tend to their further complication. The American people have rightly come to consider this settlement of their further complication. The American people have rightly come to consider this settlement as of paramount Importance, not as a quetten of party pointes but as one affecting the very foundations of republican government. To their voice Louisiana, the immediate victim of this governmental torture, adds her plaintive appeal to all irlends of constitutional liberty throughout the world to deliver her from her plunderers and to protect themselves from future oppression and tyranny, which threaten them in her own person. Shall she appeal in value? The answer rests with Congress.

BERGH'S ECCENTRICITY.

BERGH'S ECCENTRICITY.

THE IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES OF THE GRAND JURY INVADED—OPINIONS OF STAND-ARD WRITERS—FEELING AMONG THE JURY-MEN AND THE LEGAL PRATERNITY The action of Mr. Bergs in sending a communi-

cation to Mr. C. S. Delevan, foreman of the Grand Jury, which was discharged by Recorder Hackett on Monday, severely reflecting upon that body for failing to find an indictment in a case presented by him and in which he was interested as the President of the Society for the Prevention of Crueity to Animals, has excited the astonishment even of those best acquainted with the peculiarities of that eccentric philanthropist. The feeling is becoming very prevalent, and nowhere more so than among the legal profession, that this gentleman—armed with the extraordinary dinary powers which compliant legislatures bave conferred upon him-has become a monomaniac on the subject to which he has devoted his life, and as such inflic's such annovance upon society as to make himself almost unbearable. Everywhere his extreme action has brough discredit on the cause which ae represents, and his appearance or that of his employes in court is the invariable signal for a shrug of dissatisfaction or a smile of contempt. At the same time it is fair to state that the good which has been accomplished by him and the society which he represents is very great, and the only regret is that its continuance and increase should be jeopardized by the course pursued. In view of the good thus accomplished, his interference with gentlemen's

continuance and increase should be jeopardized by the course pursued. In view of the good thus accomplished, his interference with gentlemen's coach norses—proverbially the best taken care of animals in the world—and other manifestations of his indiospheracies have been tolerated with a sort of good natured annoyance; but his last movement, in aiming a blow at an institution regarded by all Engish-speaking people as one of the most sacred, has aroused a feeling of indignation, and the very general hope is entertained that Recorder Hackett will so emphatically vindicate the majesty of the law in the oremises that it will tend to restrain the exuberant zeal of the offender in the fature.

The existence from time immemoral of those institutions designed to project the liberty and rights of the subject, of which the Grand Jury is among the most prominent, has had the effect of so familiarizing the Angio-Saxon with them that their real importance is apt to be lost sight of. In order to a realization of the

ENORMITY OF THE OFFENCE

It may be well to consider what the Grand Jury is and what the saientards and immunities which the law throws around it. Under our American institutions there is really no protection to the prisonal security of the citizen unless the Grand Jury in its original character be retained strictly. Both by English law and in our lederal and State constitutions stringent provisions exist, the snostance of which is that no porson, except in cases arising in the military and naval service, shall be neld to answer for a capital or otherwise in amous crime, or for any offence above petitiarceny, unless he shall have been previously charged on presentment of indictment of a Grand Jury. It is one of the oldest Saxon laws, and in its fundamental character has never been changed. The original oath of the Grand Jury is a matter of common interest. One of the jury required to swear to make true presentment, but having your shall common well in for anything omit so doe. So help me Good and these floy Goods.

commonwealth as to whether the ends of public justice will justify an indictioned in any given case. It was the profession of the mines of parties and the animus of parties who make complaints.

These are the principles laid down and elaborated by all the standard legal writers on the subject, and a consideration of them must make it apparent that the Grand Jury system would become altogether a lailure if at the whim of or under the misguided, though well intentioned, judgment of any dissatisfied complainant, communications may be addressed to the Grand Jury assembled, containing threats, criticisms of condemnatory charges. It migut as well be supposed that the administration of justice would seposible if at the close of every trial any dissatisfied sulfor was at theory to arise in court and pour out upon the judge and jury any reflections which miggies was at theory to arise in court and pour out upon the judge and jury any reflections which miggies for the court, and the greater wonder is that any man of intelligence in this age should ignore this fact.

Though the communication of the Grand Jury upon the subject to His shone Recorder Hackett was of the mildest and most temperate character, it was known throughout the court that they were affected by a feeling of profound indignation. When questioned concerning it yesterday, the foreman of the jury, Mr. Christian S. Belavan. Stated to a fight proporter that the jury were divided between a leeling of astonisment and inclination. When questioned concerning it yesterday, the foreman of the jury, Mr. Christian S. Belavan. Stated to a fight proporter that the jury were divided between a leeling of astonisment and inclination. When questioned concerning it yesterday, the foreman of the jury, Mr. Christian S. Belavan. Stated to a fight proporter that the purpose that my were divided between a leeling of prolound indignation. When questioned concerning it yesterday, the foreman of the jury were which would redeed darected to the body, tried to soothe the more violent